

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

INFORMATION

March 4, 1971

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER

FROM: MICHAEL A. GUHIN

THRU: ROBERT M. BEHR

SUBJECT: Secretary Rogers' Recommendation to Cease  
All Use of Herbicides in Vietnam and His  
Testimony on the Geneva Protocol

*OB*  
*HK*

You will recall that Secretary Rogers recently recommended that the President "order an immediate cessation of the use of chemical herbicides in any form for any military purpose in Vietnam" and that this decision be announced to ease the passage of the 1925 Geneva Protocol by making our controversial herbicide operations a dead issue. However, we would not change our position concerning our understanding that herbicides are outside the prohibitions of the Protocol.

*(Per 4 into)*  
*per 4 into*  
*per 4 into*

Secretary Laird disagreed with Secretary Rogers' recommendation.

We understand you have forwarded the memorandum for decision to the President. Mr. Eliot has called Mrs. Davis to inform her that, as a result of the Secretary's briefing on the subject preparatory to his testimony on the Geneva Protocol tomorrow (March 5), he has decided to withdraw his recommendation from consideration. The memorandum has been withdrawn (attached)

In addition, State has just now sent us a copy of Secretary Rogers proposed testimony for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We have no substantive problems with the proposed testimony.

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